Encroachment in sub-way apace in Delhi

124. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Hawkers suck up sub-way space", which appeared in The Times of India', New Delhi, dated the 25th October,2002;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the steps Government have taken or propose to take to remove the encroachers in the sub-ways constructed in various parts of Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) has reported that regular raids are being conducted by them to keep the sub-ways free from encroachers/unauthorized squatters. The management and maintenance of sub-ways has been awarded to M/s SELVEL and watch and ward of this company is also keeping vigil on the area.

Number of small and medium towns in India

125. DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small and medium towns in India as per the latest census data;

(b) the measures being taken to promote the development of small and medium towns; and

(c) the allocations for this purpose as included in the Annual Plan for tbe year 2002-2003?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) As per 2001 Census there are 5092 smaM and medium towns having population upto 5 lakhs in the country.

(b) To develop the urban infrastructural facilities of the small and